

IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) System for lifting and lowering an object, ~~such as a vehicle,~~ comprising a group of at least two mobile lifting columns, each lifting column comprising:

a displaceable frame with a standing mast part;

a carrier displaceable along the mast part for engaging the object to be lifted;

a drive for moving the carrier along the mast part;

a control for controlling at least the drive; and
communication means for communicating with at least other lifting columns in the group via a transmission or broadcast path,

wherein at least one of the lifting columns in the group ~~comprises~~ includes selectively user operable selection means for, when actuated, selecting any of the lifting columns from the group for a sub-group, ~~characterized in that~~ and wherein communications in the system are, at least during selection of said at least one lifting column for the sub-group, based on master-slave principles, and a selected lifting column, being the first selected column for a sub-group, is as a result of first selection thereof a master lifting column.

2. (Previously Presented) System according to claim 1, wherein at least one slave column, being a slave column during at least selection, comprises operating means for combined actuation of the lifting columns in the sub-group of selected lifting columns in operation during lifting of the object.

3. (Previously Presented) System according to claim 2, wherein the communication means are of a wireless, ~~such as radiographic~~, type for contact with the control of the lifting column.

4. (Currently Amended) System as claimed in ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, wherein the selection means of the master column are adapted to transmit a delete signal, at the beginning of the selection process, to at least one other lifting column or to ~~those~~ at least one lifting column(s) ~~which was or were~~ selected at an earlier stage with the relevant master column in a sub-group, in order to cancel the previous selection thereof.

5. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in claim 4, wherein the selection means of the master column gives to a user an indication of each lifting column available for selection in the sub-group, and comprise associated selectors for selecting lifting columns for the sub-group to be selected as slave columns.

6. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in at least claim 1, wherein the selection means of a slave column are adapted to read and adopt an identification for the purpose of selecting the slave column in a sub-group associated with the master column, and for thereafter addressing the slave column in the process of lifting the object.

7. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in claim 6, wherein the identification can be read from an identification card associated with the master column.

8. (Currently Amended) System as claimed in claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the identification is a designation of the master column, an identification of the identification card, a random number generated for instance by the master column or a date and time designation generated by the system.

9. (Currently Amended) Method of selecting at least one lifting column in a system for lifting and lowering an object, ~~such as a vehicle~~, the system comprising a group of at least two mobile lifting columns, each lifting column comprising: a displaceable frame with a standing mast part; a carrier displaceable along the mast part for engaging the object to be lifted; a drive for moving the carrier along the mast part; a control for controlling at least the drive; and communication means communicating with at least other lifting columns in the group via a transmission or broadcast path, the method comprising:

~~selection~~ selecting of at least one of the lifting columns in the group for a sub-group by selectively actuating user operable selection means, ~~;~~ and

~~the method being characterized by communicating, at least during selection of said lifting column for the sub-group on the basis of master-slave principles, and by initial select~~ wherein ~~of a first lifting column is initially selected as a master lifting column for the sub-group.~~

10. (New) System as claimed in claim 2, wherein the selection means of the master column are adapted to transmit a delete signal, at the beginning of the selection process, to at least one other lifting column or to at least one lifting column selected at an earlier stage with the relevant master column in a sub-group, in order to cancel the previous selection thereof.

11.(New) System as claimed in claim 3, wherein the selection means of the master column are adapted to transmit a delete signal, at the beginning of the selection process, to at least one other lifting column or to at least one lifting column selected at an earlier stage with the relevant master column in a sub-group, in order to cancel the previous selection thereof.

12.(New) System as claimed in claim 7, wherein the identification is a designation of the master column, an identification of the identification card, a random number generated for instance by the master column or a date and time designation generated by the system.